

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 107344
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 107344

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, TW, CH

SUBJECT: BRZEZINSKI TRIP TO CHINA

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: FOLLOWING TAKEN FROM PRESS
GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR APRIL 26 NOON STATE DEPT. BRIEFING:
IT WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT DR. ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI,
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS,
WILL VISIT PRC MAY 20-23. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SHANGHAI
COMMUNIQUE, DR. BRZEZINSKI WILL ENGAGE IN CONSULTATIONS
WITH CHINESE LEADERS. DR. BRZEZINSKI WILL ALSO VISIT
TOKYO AND SEOUL FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH LEADERS IN JAPAN
AND ROK. HE WILL BE IN JAPAN MAY 23-24 AND IN KOREA
MAY 24-25.

2. DR. BRZEZINSKI IS TRAVELLING ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF
SECRETARY VANCE WHO CONCURS TOTALLY WITH THE IMPORTANCE
AND PURPOSE OF THIS CONSULTATIVE TRIP. THE PRESIDENT
THINKS IT IMPORTANT FOR HIS NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 107344

KNOW THE CHINESE LEADERS AND TO ENGAGE IN CONSULTATIONS WITH
THEM AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS. IT IS DR. BRZEZINSKI'S FIRST
TRIP TO CHINA. HIS VISIT TO KOREA AND JAPAN UNDERSCORES THE
IMPORTANCE OF NORTHEAST ASIA TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.

3. IN ALL THREE COUNTRIES, PURPOSE IS TO CONSULT
ABOUT MATTERS OF COMMON STRATEGIC CONCERN. THE PRESIDENT

HAS STATED THAT WE CONSIDER CHINA TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE MAINTENANCE OF THE GLOBAL EQUILIBRIUM. WE BELIEVE WE HAVE MANY POINTS IN COMMON IN TODAY'S WORLD. WE THINK IT USEFUL, THEREFORE, TO CONSULT PERIODICALLY WITH PEKING'S LEADERS SO THAT THE TWO SIDES CONTINUE TO UNDERSTAND THEIR RESPECTIVE POSITIONS ON A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES.

4. THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP IS TO FOCUS ON MATTERS OF COMMON STRATEGIC CONCERN -- THE SITUATION IN EUROPE, AFRICA, THE MIDDLE EAST, SOUTH ASIA, SOUTHEAST ASIA, AND EAST ASIA. THE TRIP IS NOT A NEGOTIATING TRIP BUT DR. BRZEZINSKI WILL BE PREPARED TO REAFFIRM THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE. WE ARE NOT ATTEMPTING TO PLAY A "CHINA CARD" AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION ASSOME NEWSPAPERSHAVE SUGGESTED. OUR RELATIONS WITH CHINA GROW OUT OF OUR AWARENESS OFTHE HISTORIC AND STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF CHINA. WE APPROACH EACH OF THE COMMUNIST POWERS ON THE BASIS OF OUR OWN INTERESTS AND WE DO NOT SEEK TO USE ONE AGAINST THE OTHER.

5. DISCUSSIONS OF DR. BRZEZINSKI'S TRIP BEGAN AFTER AMBASSADOR HUANG CHEN, HEAD OF THE LIAISON OFFICE OF THE PRC IN WASHINGTON INDICATED LAST NOVEMBER THAT DR. BRZEZINSKI WOULD BE WELCOME TO VISIT CHINA. THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 107344

ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE AT THIS TIME BECAUSE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE CHINESE, JAPANESE AND KOREANS ABOUT THE TRIP HAVE JUST BEEN COMPLETED. THE PRECISE DATES WERE SELECTED ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL CONVENIENCE.

6. END UNCLASSIFIED. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. FYI:
AMBASSADOR SHEN TELEPHONED DR. BRZEZINSKI'S OFFICE SHORTLY AFTER ANNOUNCEMENT OF TRIP WAS MADE AT NOON BRIEFING APRIL 26 TO REQUEST APPOINTMENT PRIOR TO TRIP. AMBASSADOR SHEN WAS INFORMED THAT IN PRINCIPLE DR. BRZEZINSKI WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE AMBASSADOR SHEN BUT THAT SCHEDULE BETWEEN NOW AND DEPARTURE WOULD BE QUITE HEAVY IN VIEW OF DAYAN, BEGIN AND FUKUDA VISITS TO WASHINGTON. IT MIGHT BE, THEREFORE, THAT AMBASSADOR SHEN'S CALL WOULD HAVE TO BE POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER VISIT HAD TAKEN PLACE. VANCE

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